

*L. phlaeas* and *C. webbianus* were still flying. Turning over some stones, we found the largest earwig in the island, *Annisolatus maxima* Brulle, several beetles, mostly *Heteger transversus* Brulle, and the staphilinid *Creophilus maxillosus* spp. *canariensis* Bernhauer. We also disturbed the common grasshoppers *Aiolopus strepens* Latreille, *A. thalassinus* Fabricius, *Calliptamus plebeius* Walker, *Ariagona margaritae* Kr. and a *Plalycleis* species.

15th September. We returned to England, both satisfied with our enjoyable and fruitful holiday on the three picturesque islands we had visited.

We would like to record our grateful thanks to Dr. A. Machado and Senor M. Morales Martin for their warm hospitality and great help. For a full bibliography see Allcard & Valletta, 1978 and 1981.

### References

- Allcard, H. G. & Valletta, A., 1978. A week of collecting in Tenerife, Canary Islands, in September 1977. *Entomologist's Rec. J. Var.* 90: 91-94, 1981. The Canary Islands revisited in 1979. *Ibid.* 93: 120-125.  
Derry, N. J. & Derry, A. C., 1979. Tenerife and Gomera, July 1978. *Ibid.* 91: 275-278.

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MOMPHA LACTEELLA STEPHENS: A POSSIBLE DISTINGUISHING CHARACTER. — I recently dissected a *Mompha* which I had suspected might be *lacteella* and this proved to be the case. I took it on 5th. June 1976 in the late afternoon at Lutton, Devon. It was in good condition, sitting on a leaf of *Corylus* at the edge of a cornfield. There was no evidence anywhere in the area of *Epilobium hirsutum*, the foodplant given by Emmet (1979, *A field guide to the smaller British Lepidoptera*).

*Lacteella* is very similar to *propinquella*. In his key to the genus *Mompha*, Meyrick (1928, *A revised handbook of the British Lepidoptera*) separates the two on the colour of the thorax and basal blotch. He describes this as being ochreous-white in *propinquella* and pale ferruginous-ochreous in *lacteella*, a distinction which I find hard to interpret.

I have bred several *propinquella* and fresh specimens appear to have the thorax and basal blotch the same colour as *lacteella*. However his description of *lacteella* states "thorax pale ferruginous-ochreous, anteriorly sprinkled dark fuscous." Mr. S. N. A. Jacobs' coloured figure (1945, Wakely, Notes on the genus *Mompha*. *Proc. Trans. S. Lon. ent. nat. Hist. Soc.* 1944-45: 81-84, plt. V) shows this on the tegulae in his illustration of *lacteella*. In my specimen the tegulae are very strongly marked anteriorly with the blue-black ground colour of the forewings. None of my *propinquella* has such markings.

As I have only one specimen of *lacteella* I do not know whether this is a good character for separating the two species. I would welcome others' observations. — R. J. HECKFORD. 67, Newnham Road, Plympton, Plymouth.